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December 20, 2004

Via Hand Delivery
The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Public Service Company of Colorado d/b/a Xcel Energy v. The

Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, Complainant's

Motion for Extension of Time, S.T.B. Docket No. 42057

Dear Secretary Williams:

Please accept for filing on behalf of complainant Public Service Company of Colorado d/b/a Xcel Energy the accompanying Motion for Extension of Time for the filing of supplemental information the Board invited Xcel Energy and defendant The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") to submit in response to the Board's December 14, 2004 decision in this docket. Given the extremely short time periods involved, Xcel Energy requests expedited consideration of this motion. The original and 10 copies are included.

An extra copy of this filing is included for stamping and return to this office. If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned at 202.274.2913.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Wilcox

Counsel for Complainant

Thomas Wiling

cc:

Lisa Lett, Esq.

Pat Panzarino

Gerald D. Zimmerman

David Konschnik, Director, STB Office of Proceedings

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## BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO D/B/A XCEL ENERGY,

Complainant,

Docket No. 42057

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THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY,

Defendant.



## COMPLAINANT'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Complainant Public Service Company of Colorado d/b/a Xcel Energy ("Xcel Energy"), pursuant to 49 CFR § 1104.7(b), hereby requests a brief extension of time, until January 10, 2005, for the parties to file supplemental information as described in the Board's December 14, 2004 decision in this docket ("Technical Corrections Decision"). Defendant The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") has informed Xcel Energy that it does not oppose this request. Xcel Energy requests expedited consideration of this Motion, given the short time periods involved.

On page 6 of the Technical Corrections Decision, the Board invited Xcel Energy to file supplemental information regarding certain technical errors asserted by BNSF in its Response to Xcel Energy's Petition for Reconsideration. Similarly, the Board on pages 3 and 5 invited BNSF to file supplemental information regarding certain technical errors asserted by Xcel Energy in its Response to BNSF's Petition to Correct Technical Errors. The Board established a 20-day time period for these filings. The 20-day period

from the December 14<sup>th</sup> date of service of the decision would require any supplemental information to be filed on January 3, 2005. This deadline is problematic for various reasons, the most obvious being that the latter half of the period spans the Christmas and New Years holidays, when counsel, experts, and relevant client personnel will not be available on a consistent basis. Moreover, Xcel Energy received the electronic workpapers upon which the Technical Corrections Decision was based on December 16, 2004, leaving Xcel Energy and its experts with five business days before Christmas to conduct an evaluation of the Technical Corrections Decision and begin preparing a response. No prejudice would be done to defendant BNSF if this seven-day extension of time were granted. In fact, counsel for BNSF has informed the undersigned that BNSF is not opposed to Xcel Energy's request.

For the foregoing reasons, Xcel Energy requests that the Board extend the due date for both parties' supplemental pleadings until Monday, January 10, 2005.

Lisa Lett, Esq. Xcel Energy 1225 17<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 900 Denver, CO 80202 (303) 294-2754 Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Wilnox

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Washington, DC (202) 274-2913

Attorneys for Complainant

December 20, 2004

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2004, I served a copy of the Complainant's Motion for Extension of Time by hand upon the counsel for the defendant at the following address:

Samuel M. Sipe, Jr., Esq. Anthony J. LaRocca, Esq. Brooke L. Gaede, Esq. Steptoe & Johnson 1330 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Washington, DC 20036

Thomas W. Wilcox